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EDUS 516

January 31, 2012

**PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

1) **National Council of Teachers of English**

<http://www.ncte.org>

This organization is dedicated to improving the teaching and learning of English and the language arts at all levels of education. It provides many benefits for its members such as lesson plans, web seminars, online courses, information on state standards, career opportunities, and consulting services. It also has specific pages and information for elementary, middle school, secondary school, and college teachers. The cost of their membership is $50.00 per year.

2) **International Reading Association**

<http://www.reading.org>

This organization’s mission is to promote reading by continuously advancing the quality of literacy instruction and research worldwide. It supports literacy professionals by offering a wide range of services such as professional development activities, access to journals, a career opportunity site, a bimonthly magazine, and a network of local, state, and national councils to support literacy teachers. The cost of their basic membership is $39.00 per year. An online membership is $29.00 per year.

3) **The Literacy and Social Responsibility Special Interest Group**

<http://www.csulb.edu/misc/l-sr/index.html>

This organization’s intent is to study and promote practices which foster literacy development and social responsibility in students of all ages. It provides a forum for educators and researchers to present their insights and interact with each other and share their common concerns. The benefits of membership include access to child, adolescent, and adult literature groups, research groups, political advocacy groups, website links, and their own periodic, peer-reviewed journal. It is a subgroup of the International Reading Association (IRA) so you have to be a member in good standing of the IRA to join this group. There is no membership fee for this specific group, but you would have had to have paid the membership fees of the IRA listed above.